

CLAIMS

1. A playback apparatus that plays a video stream recorded on a recording medium on which is also recorded a computer program that
5 is to be executed during playback of the video stream,

the video stream including control information for specifying a location on a time axis relating to playback timing of video, and the computer program including predetermined codes for designating a plurality of images and, for each image, a corresponding rendition
10 time at which the image is to be rendered,

the playback apparatus comprising:

a storage unit;

a playback unit operable to successively play video that composes the video stream, according to a playback timing relating
15 to the control information;

a program execution unit operable to successively interpret and execute each of codes that compose the computer program, wherein interpreting and executing with respect to the predetermined codes is a procedure of storing, in the storage unit, the images designated
20 by the predetermined codes and the corresponding rendition time of each designated image;

an image selection unit operable to compare (a) a specified location that is a location, on a time axis relating to playback timing of the video currently being played, which is specified based
25 on the control information, with (b) each of the stored corresponding rendition times, and if, based on a comparison result, one or more images are to be rendered, select the one or more images; and

a rendition unit operable to, if one or more images have been

selected by the image selection unit, render the one or more images during playback of the video.

2. The playback apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

5 a processor; and

an image memory for storing images that compose a screen to be displayed,

wherein the program execution unit implements the interpreting and execution by converting the codes into machine language instructions that are executable by the processor, and causing the
10 processor to execute the instructions,

the image selection unit performs the comparison by causing the processor to execute predetermined comparison-use machine language instruction sets, and

15 the rendition unit performs the rendition by, if one or more images have been selected by the image selecting unit, transferring the selected one or more images from the storage unit to the image memory.

20 3. The playback apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the predetermined codes are for designating each rendition time by using a rendition start time and a rendition end time,

the program execution unit implements the execution of the predetermined codes by storing, in the storage unit, pieces of image
25 data and rendition time data in correspondence, each piece of image data showing a different one of the images, and each piece of rendition time data showing the rendition start time and the rendition end time of the image shown by the corresponding piece of image data,

and

the image selection unit selects one or more images that are shown by image data that has corresponding rendition time data in which a range defined by the rendition start time through to the
5 rendition end time encompasses the specified location.

4. The playback apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the control information further includes condition information that shows a predetermined condition judgment criterion in
10 correspondence with at least one location on the time axis, and

the image selection unit selects each of the one or more images only when (a) a predetermined relationship is satisfied between the rendition time of the image and the specified location, and, in addition,
(b) if the specified location has corresponding condition information,
15 a predetermined condition is satisfied based on the condition information.

5. The playback device of Claim 4, wherein

the predetermined codes are for further designating sets of
20 image rendition coordinates, each image being in correspondence with a set of image rendition coordinates,

the program execution unit further implements the interpreting and execution by storing, in the storage unit, each designated set of image rendition coordinates in correspondence with the
25 corresponding image,

the condition information includes a set of coordinates, and

the image selection unit selects each of the one or more images only when (a) a predetermined relationship is satisfied between the

rendition time of the image and the specified location, and, in addition,
(b) if the specified location has corresponding condition information,
the set of image rendition coordinates stored in correspondence with
the image and the set of coordinates in the condition information
5 fall within a predetermined proximity of each other.

6. The playback apparatus of Claim 4, wherein
the condition information includes information for specifying
playback speed,
10 the playback unit selects one of a plurality of playback speeds,
and performs playback in accordance with the selected playback speed,
and
the predetermined condition relating to the selection by the
image selection unit is a condition that the playback speed selected
15 by the playback unit for the video currently being played matches
the playback speed designated by condition information in
correspondence with the specified location.

7. The playback apparatus of Claim 4, wherein
20 the predetermined codes are for further designating image
identifiers, each image being in correspondence with an image
identifier,
the program execution unit further implements the interpreting
and execution by storing each designated image identifier in the
25 storage unit in correspondence with the corresponding image,
the condition information includes an image identifier, and
the image selection unit selects each of the one or more images
only when (a) a predetermined relationship is satisfied between the

rendition time of the image and the specified location, and, in addition,
(b) if the specified location has corresponding condition information,
the image identifier stored in correspondence with the image and
the image identifier in the condition information match each other.